

Water Quality Protection Division



Mississippi Canyon 252 Oil Spill, Gulf of Mexico Region 6 Update

Subject: **Water Quality Division Update # 25**
 Mississippi Canyon 252 Oil Spill, Gulf of Mexico

Date: June 4, 2010

Reporting Period: June 4, 2010 1300 – June 5, 2010 1300

Forecast

The NOAA Surface Oil Forecast prepared on 6/3/10 at 2100 CDT for 6/4/10 at 1200 CDT (Figure 1) states that onshore winds have been out of the south to southwest at 10-15 knots. This has pushed the oil slick in a northeasterly direction towards the Mississippi and Alabama barrier islands. Winds out of the south to southwest are forecasted to continue throughout the weekend. Oil could impact oil as far east as Freeport. Shoreline impacts to the Breton Sound, Chandeleur Sound and northeast portions of the Delta are expected to be minimal while oil remaining south of Barataria and Terrebonne could come ashore between Southwest Pass and Timbalier Bay. The southern portions of the oil slick (Figure 2) are expected to remain entrained in Eddy Franklin.

See Table 1 for a list of Shoreline Impacts and the status of cleanup at those locations.

Monitoring and Assessment

- Continuing to coordinate with the REOC Environmental Unit and HQ (Office of Water) on the review of incoming water and sediment quality monitoring data.
- Continuing to coordinate with HQ (Office of Water) as they finalize the screening levels under development for use in evaluating water and sediment quality monitoring results.
- Coordinating with the REOC Environmental Unit and START contractors to seek clarification on sample nomenclature and other quality assurance related questions to assist in the review of incoming water and sediment quality monitoring data.
- Participated on conference calls where staff learned that Region 4 has developed a Google Earth application which shows multiple data layers related to the BP oil spill response, including: oil spill trajectories, boom locations, and real-time air monitoring locations. HQ (Office of Water) is coordinating with R4/R6 to determine the best method for linking water and sediment quality data to the application. There is interest in making this application available through EPA's oil spill response website.
- Attending regular meetings and calls with Region 4, HQ, & REOC.

Drinking Water

- Drinking water intakes, public drinking water wells, and domestic wells have not been impacted by the oil sheen and are not projected to be impacted.
- EPA Region 6 is providing the Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals (LDHH) daily situation report as well as data summaries as they become available.
- EPA Region 6 continues to coordinate closely with the LDHH on all drinking water issues.

Data Management – Mapping Efforts

- Continue to coordinate GIS Mapping Efforts with REOC and Water Division.

NPDES

- Reviewing a Notice of Intent to sue BP under the Citizen Suit provisions of CWA 505(b) for alleged violations of GMG290000 Outer Continental Shelf general permit. Parties to this advance notice of intent to sue include: Gulf Restoration Network, Louisiana Environmental Action Network (LEAN), and Environment America.
- Monitoring ongoing activities regarding response efforts for possible staff deployment.
- NPDES Permits and TMDL Branch continues to be available to provide technical assistance as needed.

Coastal Programs

Louisiana Large-Scale Coastal Barrier Plan:

- Extensive coordination is being conducted regarding several versions of the Coastal Barrier plan. Coordination with the State's full application and engineering drawings is ongoing.

Corps Emergency Authorizations for Coastal Protection Features:

- The Corps has coordinated with Region 6 and OW on a continuing series of emergency authorization requests for incremental work to install booms, sand bags, tiger dams, concrete blocks, and similar structures in the Chandeleur Sound and Barataria Bay. Regional staff members have been supporting responses by OW.

OW Ecological Impact Analyses:

- Discussions regarding a scientific experts panel on marsh remediation and planning for a meeting on Saturday.

Corps Navigation Maintenance Dredging:

- OW, Region 6, and Region 4 are preparing a discussion paper on "Dredged Material and Ocean Dumping Sites Potentially Impacted by the Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill,"
- The oil spill is not affecting dredging operations or navigation in the Mississippi River, Southwest Pass (SWP) but, according to the Corps, oil continues to accumulate in the lower portions of South Pass and Pass a Loutre (a borrow site cleared under the Corps' emergency authorization for the LA berm application).
- Ongoing analyses regarding marsh remediation efforts and long-term coastal habitat impacts.

Coastal Wetlands Planning, Protection and Restoration Act (CWPPRA)

- Oil has been reported in the locations listed below (also shown in Figure 3). CWPPRA projects near these locations are provided. It is unknown whether the specific project has been impacted at this time. EPA sponsored projects are in bold.

Barrier Islands

- Western end of Marsh Island
 - TV-14 Marsh Island Hydrologic Restoration Project (USACE sponsored)
 - **TV-21 East Marsh Island Marsh Creation (EPA co-sponsored)**
- Raccoon Island
 - TE-48, Raccoon Island Shoreline Protection/Marsh Creation (NRCS Sponsored)
- Trinity Island
 - **TE-24, Isles Dernieres Restoration Trinity Island (EPA Sponsored)**
 - **TE-37, New Cut Dune and Marsh Restoration (EPA Sponsored)**
 - **TE-20, Isles Dernieres Restoration East Island (EPA Sponsored)**
- Whiskey Island
 - **TE-27, Whiskey Island Restoration (EPA Sponsored)**
 - **TE-50, Whiskey Island Back Barrier Marsh Creation (EPA Sponsored)**
 - **TE-52, Barrier Island Vegetation Demonstration (EPA Sponsored)**
- East Timbalier Island
 - TE-25, East Timbalier Island Sediment Restoration, Phase 1 (NMFS sponsored)
 - TE-30, East Timbalier Island Sediment Restoration, Phase 2 (NMFS sponsored)
- Grand Terre Island
 - BA-28, Vegetative Plantings of a Dredge Material Disposal Site on Grand Terre Island (NMFS Sponsored)
- Chandeleur Islands
 - PO-27, Chandeleur Islands Marsh Restoration (NMFS Sponsored)

Marsh

- Terrebonne Bay Marshes
 - TE-45, Terrebonne Bay Shore Protection Demonstration (USFWS Sponsored)
- South Pass to Pass a Loutre area
 - MR-09, Mississippi Delta Wide Crevasses (NMFS sponsored).

Headlands

- Cheniere au Tigre area
 - TV-16, Cheniere au Tigre Sediment Trapping Demonstration (NRCS sponsored)
- West of Bayou Lafourche at Belle Pass on Gulf Shoreline
 - TE-23, West Belle Pass Headland Restoration (USACE Sponsored)
- South Pass to Pass a Loutre area
 - MR-09, Mississippi Delta Wide Crevasses (NMFS sponsored).

Nearshore Surface Oil Forecast Deepwater Horizon MC252

NOAA/NOS/OR&R

Nearshore

Estimate for: 1200 CDT, Friday, 6/04/10

Date Prepared: 2100 CDT, Thursday, 6/03/10

This forecast is based on the NWS spot forecast from Thursday, June 3 PM. Currents were obtained from several models (NOAA Gulf of Mexico, West Florida Shelf/USF, NAVO/NRL) and HFR measurements. The model was initialized from Wednesday-Thursday satellite imagery analysis (NOAA/NESDIS) and Thursday overflight observations. The leading edge may contain tarballs that are not readily observable from the imagery (hence not included in the model initialization). Oil near bay inlets could be brought into that bay by local tidal currents.

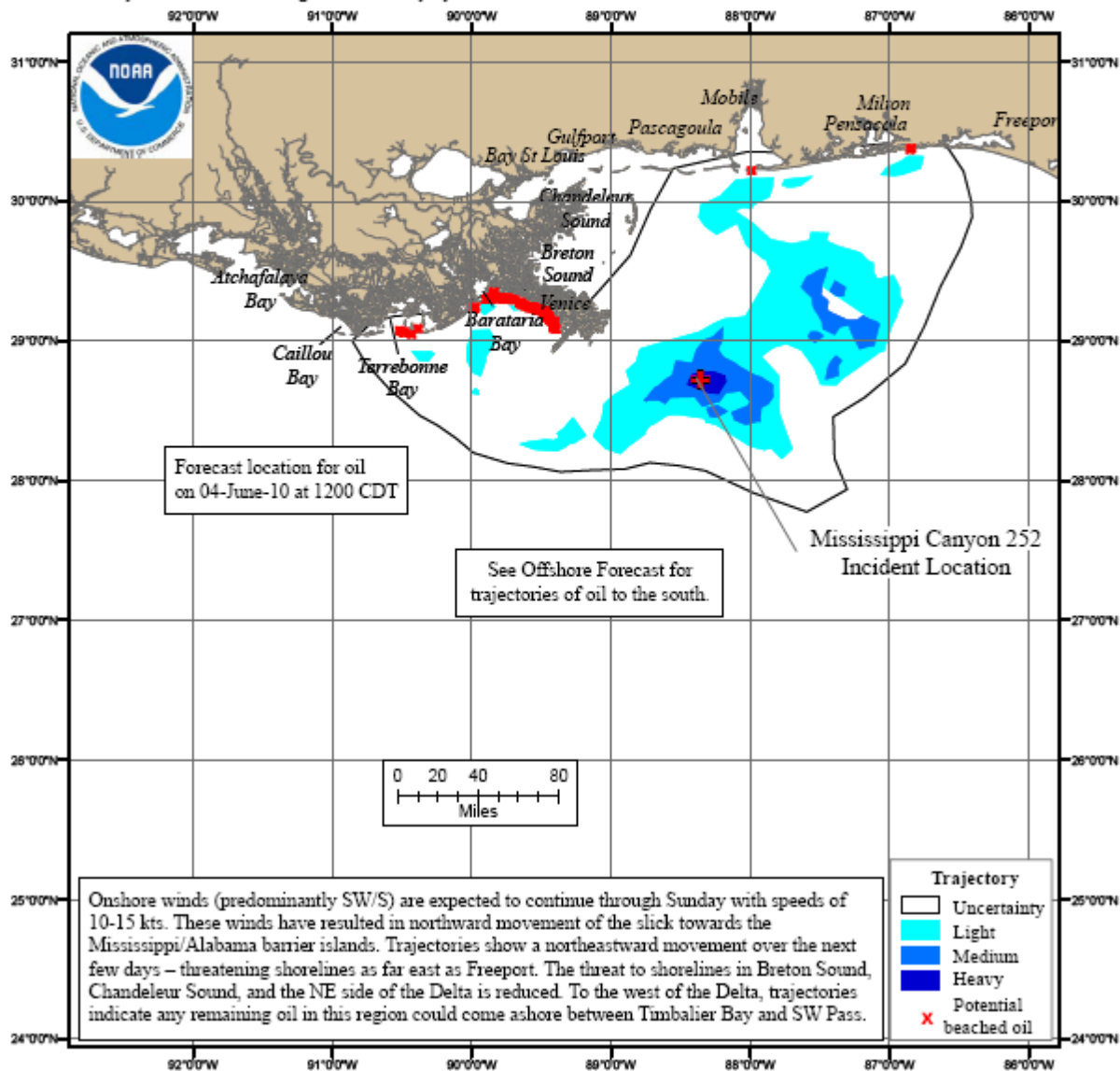


Figure 1 NOAA oil slick trajectory forecast for 6/4/10.

<http://www.deepwaterhorizonresponse.com/go/doctype/2931/53979/>

Offshore Surface Oil Forecast Deepwater Horizon MC252

NOAA/NOS/OR&R

Offshore

Estimate for: 1200 CDT, Friday, 6/04/10

Date Prepared: 1900 CDT, Thursday, 6/03/10

Currents were obtained from four models: NOAA Gulf of Mexico, NavO/NCOM, NRL/IASNFS, and West Florida Shelf/USF. Each includes Loop Current dynamics. Gulf wide winds were obtained from the gridded NCEP product. The model was initialized from Thursday satellite imagery analysis (NOAA/NESDIS). The leading edge may contain tarballs that are not readily observable from the imagery (hence not included in the model initialization).

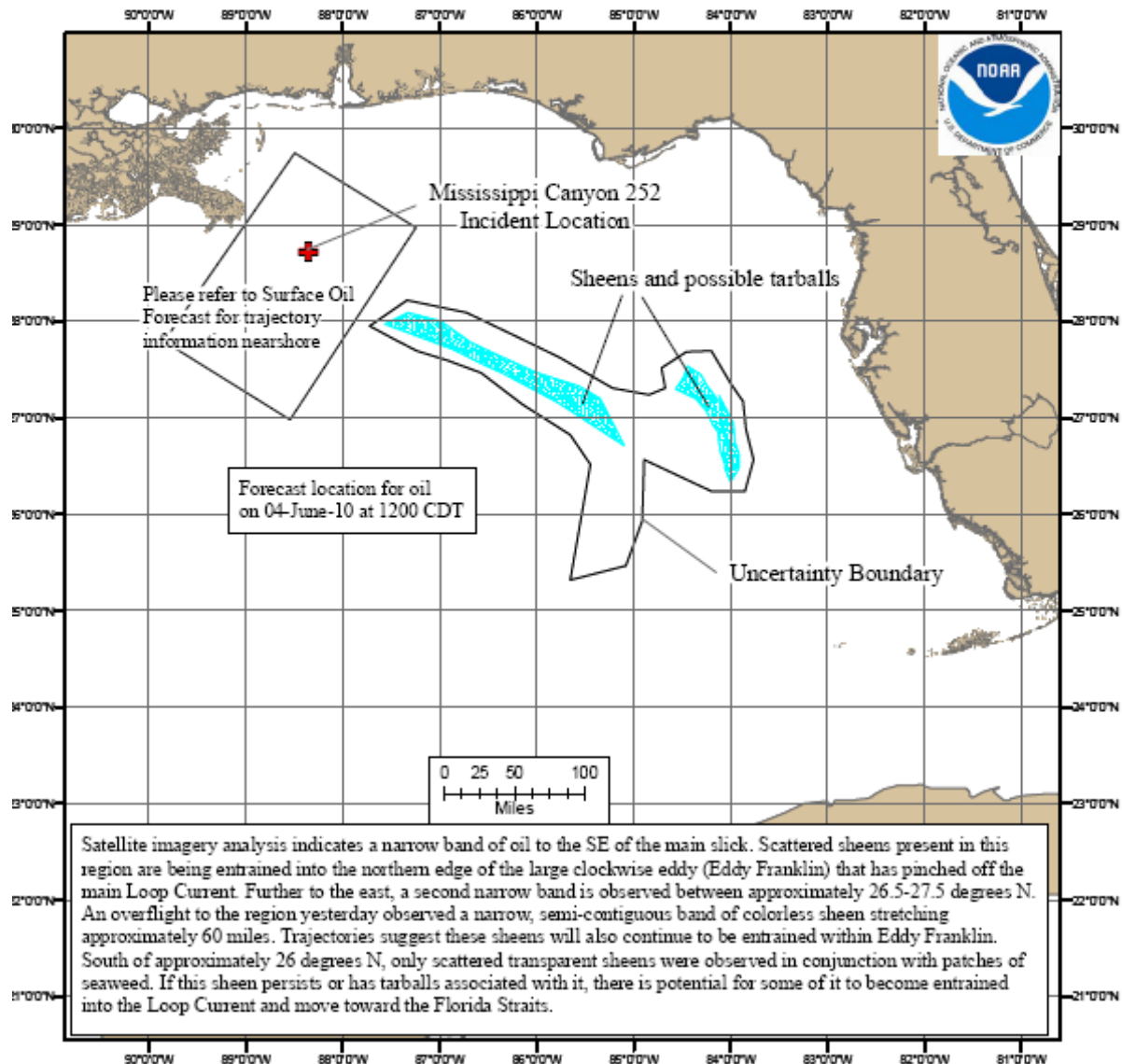


Figure 2 NOAA offshore oil slick trajectory forecast for 6/4/10.

<http://www.deepwaterhorizonresponse.com/go/doctype/2931/53979/>

Shoreline Impact Areas	Stage	Parish	Miles Impacted	Progress
Southpass Inner Sandbar	Venice	Plaquemines	2.78	80% complete
Pilot Bayou/Johnson Pass	Venice	Plaquemines	1.5	using containment boom
Pass a Loutre/Red Fish Bay	Venice	Plaquemines	4	70% complete, 43bbbs removed
Inner Area Southpass	Venice	Plaquemines	1.49	
Chandeleur Island	Hopedale	St. Bernard	7.2	sporadic oiling, booming areas
Grand Isle/Elmer's Island	Grand Isle	Jefferson	7.6	85% complete
Isle Grande Terre	Grand Isle	Plaquemines	1.77	shoreline cleanup ops
Brush Island	Hopedale	St. Bernard	1.33	70% complete
Lake Raccourci	Fourchon	LaFourche	0.8	light
Chenier Au Tigre	St. Mary	Vermillion	0.7	100% complete
Trinity Island	Cocodrie	Terrebonne	0.48	minor re-oiling, 1 day till 100%
Fourchon Beach	Fourchon	LaFourche	3.75	90% complete
Timbalier Bay	Fourchon	LaFourche	0.43	sorbent boom change out
Lake Felicity	Cocodrie	Terrebonne	1	sorbent boom change out
Marsh Island	St. Mary	Iberia	0.4	100% complete
Marsh Island	St. Mary	Iberia	0.2	100% complete

Table 1 Deepwater Horizon shoreline impacts and status of cleanup. Information provided by EPA On Scene Coordinator web page. Created for 6/3/10

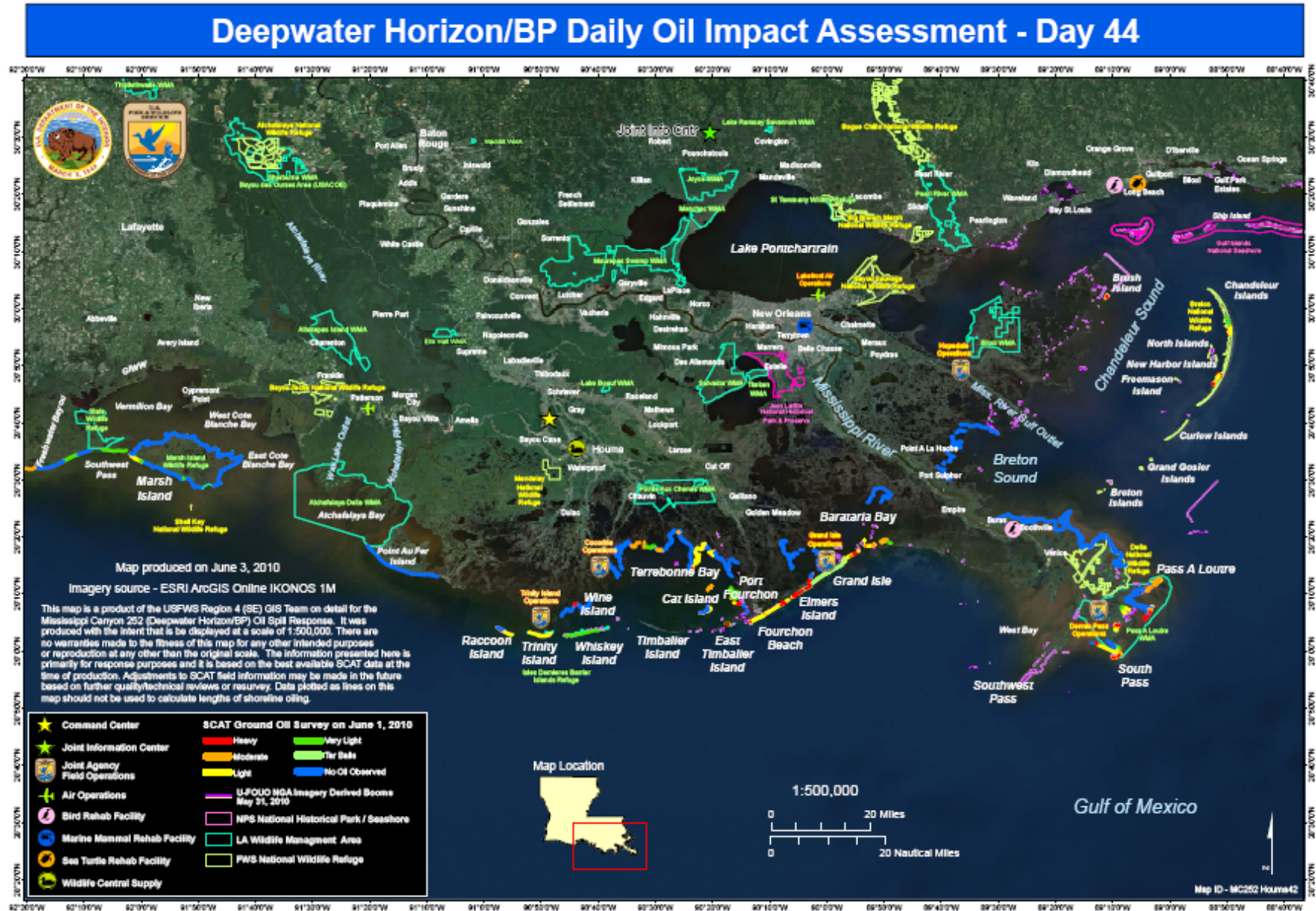


Figure 3 Oil Impact Assessment Map created on June 3, 2010 by U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

<http://www.deepwaterhorizonresponse.com/go/doctype/2931/53979/>